

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 PARIS 15003 01 OF 02 201658Z

53

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 NEA-14 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 COME-00 EB-11 LAB-06

SIL-01 NIC-01 SAJ-01 DRC-01 /160 W

----- 094847

R 201625Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0112

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 01 OF 02 PARIS 15003

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PLAB

SUBJECT: EAST-WEST RELATIONS IN FORCE OUVRIERE CONGRESS

1. SUMMARY. IN ADDRESSING FO CONGRESS DEVAN NAIR
(SINGAPORE) AND MARTIN WARD (USA) TOOK HARD LINE ON
ETUC AND POSSIBLE ADMISSION BY IT OF WE COMMUNIST
TRADE UNIONS. BERGERON SEC. GEN. OF FO SEIZED
OPPORTUNITY TO PROCLAIM THAT FO IS NOT ISOLATED SINCE
ITS RESERVATIONS ON CERTAIN DEVELOPMENTS IN EUROPE
ARE SHARED BY OTHERS. COMMUNIST L'HUMANITE TOOK
EXCEPTION TO DEVAN NAIR'S LECTURING OF EUROPEANS AND
PROMISED FUTURE COMMENTARY ON WARD'S SPEECH. END
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 PARIS 15003 01 OF 02 201658Z

SUMMARY.

2. AN UNUSUALLY STRONG INTERNATIONAL DELEGATION ATTENDED FO'S 12TH CONGRESS IN TOULOUSE 11-14 JUNE. IT INCLUDED OTTO KERSTEN SEC. GEN ICFTU, T. RASSCHAERT SEC. GEN. ETUC, PEER CARLSEN DEPUTY SEC. GEN. ETUC, A. LAPPAS VICE PRES. DGB (GERMANY) H. NIELSEN (DANISH LO), T. CARLSON (SWEDISH LO), C.V. DEVAN NAIR SEC. GEN. SINGAPORE NTUC, MARTIN WARD PRES. OF PLUMBERS UNION (USA), I.BROWN AND P. BARTON OF AFL-CIO OFFICE IN EUROPE, LABOR LEADERS FROM AUSTRIA, BELGIUM, LUXEMBOURG, ISRAEL AND HOLLAND, FOUR REPRESENTATIVES OF THE EEC DEALING WITH SOCIAL AFFAIRS AND GERALD LARRUE OF ILO.

3. BREAKING WITH PRECEDENT THE VISITORS WERE INVITED TO ADDRESS THE CONGRESS DURING OPENING SESSION. KERSTEN WHO SPOKE FIRST DELIVERED PLATITUDINOUS REMARKS WHICH INSPIRED PUZZLEMENT RATHER THAN ENTHUSIASM. IN A CURIOUS REFERENCE TO POSSIBLE ADMISSION BY ETUC "OF LABOR ORGANIZATIONS WHICH HAVE OR MAINTAIN TIES WITH WFTU" HE SAID THAT IF "OUR EUROPEAN FRIENDS ASKED ICFTU FOR ADVICE ON THIS MATTER IT WAS BECAUSE THEY TOO ARE AWARE OF THE REPERCUSSIONS WHICH SUCH ADMISSIONS MIGHT HAVE IN OTHER AREAS BEYOND EUROPE."

4. WITHOUT SAYING A WORD ON WHAT WAS THE ICFTU ADVICE KERSTAN WENT ON TO SAY THAT "THE RESERVATIONS AND FEARS EXPRESSED BY FO IN THIS CONNECTION WILL MAKE OUR FRIENDS UNDERSTAND THAT IT IS MORE THAN EVER NECESSARY TO BE PRUDENT AND TO AVOID IDEOLOGICAL CONFUSION."

5. IN CONTRAST WITH KERSTEN'S CAREFUL TALK DEVAN NAIR READING FROM HANDWRITTEN TEXT MINCED NO WORDS IN CRITICIZING THE EUROPEAN LABOR LEADERS FOR TRANSFORMING "THE EAST-WEST GOVERNMENTAL DETENTE WHICH IS BASED ON HARD-HEADED POLITICAL CALCULATIONS INTO A KIND OF EMPTY-HEADED EUPHORIA." AFTER ACCUSING CERTAIN "IMPORTANT ETUC AFFILIATES OF HAVING LOST ALL REGARD FOR ELEMENTARY POLITICAL ARITHMETIC" DEVAN NAIR LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 PARIS 15003 01 OF 02 201658Z

SAID THAT THE EUROPEANS ARE ENTITLED TO DO WHATEVER THEY LIKE, OF COURSE, BUT WE IN ASIA ARE ALSO ENTITLED TO REGARD THEM AS POLITICAL INFANTS EAGER TO PLAY LITTLE GAMES WITH SHELEPIN (THE SOVIET "LABOR" LEADER) AND HIS FRIENDS UNDER THE PROTECTION OF THE AMERICAN NUCLEAR UMBRELLA."

6. NAIR RELENTLESSLY WENT ON TO REFER TO THE ILL-

ADVISED WITHDRAWAL OF AFL-CIO FROM ICFTU ONLY TO STATE
THAT THE WE UNIONS WERE "UNWORTHY SHOULDERS TO
RECEIVE THE AFL-CIO MANTEL OF MORAL LEADERSHIP OF FREE
AND DEMOCRATIC LABOR." HE SAW ETUC AS AN ATTEMPT
TO LOOSEN WE TIES WITH ICFTU AND SARCASTICALLY
CONCLUDED THAT THE THEORY OF "UNIQUE SITUATION" TO
JUSTIFY CGIL ADMISSION INTO ETUC MAY WELL LEAD TO THE
UNIQUE UNDERTAKING OF MAKING SHELEPIN ETUC PRESIDENT.
ALLUDING TO FACT THAT IN CONTRAST WITH WE THE ASIANS
HAVE TO COPE WITH BOTH USSR AND PRC HE ARGUED THAT

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 PARIS 15003 02 OF 02 201654Z

53

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 NEA-14 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 COME-00 EB-11 LAB-06

SIL-01 NIC-01 SAJ-01 DRC-01 /160 W

----- 094843

R 201625Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0113

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 02 OF 02 PARIS 15003

"BEST GUARANTEE THAT TRADE UNIONS IN ASIA CAN HAVE AGAINST USSR-PRC COMPETITION IS A STRONG AND PURPOSEFUL INTERNATIONAL FREE LABOR MOVEMENT." AGAIN HE FAULTED WE LEADERS FOR UNDERMINING ICFTU THROUGH ETUC. HE INTIMATED THAT THE ASIANS ARE BEGINNING TO THINK OF WHAT THEY MUST DO INDEPENDENTLY IN THEIR OWN INTEREST. (FULL TEXT OF NAIR'S SPEECH WHICH PROBABLY WILL BE PUBLISHED IN THE AFL-CIO FREE TRADE UNION NEWS HAS BEEN POUCHED.)

7. ALTHOUGH LESS BLUNT MARTIN WARD'S SPEECH DELIVERED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 PARIS 15003 02 OF 02 201654Z

SAME CLEAR MESSAGE AS NAIR ABOUT THE RISK OF MISTAKING DETENTE AT GOVERNMENTAL LEVEL AS LICENSE TO PURSUE EAST-WEST TRADE UNION CONTACTS AT THE PRICE OF COMPROMISING FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES OF DEMOCRATIC TRADE UNIONISM.

8. BERGERON'S TACTICS IN HAVING THE VISITORS SPEAK FIRST WAS REVEALED IN HIS REPLY TO "THE FRATERNAL GREETINGS" WHEN HE PROCLAIMED THAT THE VISITORS' SPEECHES SHOWED CONCLUSIVELY THAT FO IS FAR FROM ISOLATED ON INTERNATIONAL SCENE BECAUSE ITS RESERVATIONS ABOUT CERTAIN DEVELOPMENTS IN EUROPE ARE SHARED BY OTHERS. BERGERON'S PURPOSE, IN WHICH HE SUCCEEDED FULLY, WAS TO PREVENT ENTIRELY ANY DISCUSSION OF THE ISSUE IN THE CONGRESS SO AS TO AVOID ANY DOUBTS ABOUT HIS AUTHORITY TO PURSUE THE INTRANSIGENT POLICY HE HAS PURSUED ALL ALONG IN OPPOSING ADMISSION OF WE COMMUNIST UNIONS IN ETUC.

9. COMMUNIST DAILY L'HUMANITE WAS QUICK TO TAKE EXCEPTION TO DEVAN NAIR'S LECTURING OF EUROPEANS ON WE AFFAIRS AND PROMISED A SPECIAL COMMENTARY ON SPEECH BY AFL-CIO REPRESENTATIVE.
STONE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LABOR UNIONS, COMMUNIST LABOR ORGANIZATIONS, MEETINGS, MEETING DELEGATIONS, LABOR UNION OFFICIALS, SPEECHES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 JUN 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974PARIS15003
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740161-0897
From: PARIS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740628/aaaaaxxn.tel
Line Count: 211
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <04 APR 2002 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <18 JUN 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EAST-WEST RELATIONS IN FORCE OUVRIERE CONGRESS
TAGS: ELAB, FORCE OUVRIERE, (BERGERON, ANDRE), (NAIR, DEVAN)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005